## **Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

# LD 7 Resolve, to Change the Name of the Ridlonville Bridge between Rumford and Mexico to the Veterans Memorial Bridge

**RESOLVE 2** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
FERGUSON	OTP-AM	S-10
BRYANT		

LD 7 proposed to change the name of the bridge between Rumford and Mexico from the Ridlonville Bridge to the Veterans Bridge.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-10)** proposed to change the name of the Ridlonville Bridge between Rumford and Mexico from the "Veterans Bridge," as proposed in the resolve, to the "Veterans Memorial Bridge."

#### Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 2, changes the name of the Ridlonville Bridge between Rumford and Mexico from the "Ridlonville Bridge" to the "Veterans Memorial Bridge."

# LD 28 An Act to Exempt a Person Running for Public Office from the Mandatory Seat Belt Law

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
PERKINS	ONTP	

LD 28 proposed to exempt a candidate for public office actively campaigning from door to door from the seat belt law.

# LD 46 An Act to Require Special Identification of Motor Vehicles Driven by Holders of Driver's License Permits

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
ABROMSON	ONTP	

LD 46 proposed that the Secretary of State issue placards to driver's license permit holders identifying that person as a permit holder. The placards were proposed to be issued at the same time the Secretary of State issues the driver permit and would be required to be displayed on the motor vehicle being driven by that permit holder.

# LD 52 An Act to Expand the Number of Lights Firefighters May Use on Their DIED BETWEEN Motor Vehicles BODIES

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
JONES	ONTP	MAJ	
	OTP-AM	MIN	

LD 52 proposed to allow an active member of a municipal or volunteer fire department, when authorized, to use any type of flashing signal light on a vehicle when en route to or at the scene of a fire or other emergency.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-84) was the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. The amendment proposed to repeal limitations on the size and number of flashing red signal lights that may be displayed on vehicles used by firefighters and to allow those lights to be mounted anywhere on the vehicle below the top of the vehicle's windshield. The amendment also proposed to prohibit the lights from being located in a manner that impairs the vision of an operator of another motor vehicle. This amendment was not adopted.

# LD 53 Resolve, Requiring the State to Reimburse Towns for the Construction of Salt and Sand Storage Facilities

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 RINES
 ONTP

LD 53 proposed to require the State to reimburse municipalities, by December 31, 1999, the State's share of the costs of salt and sand storage facilities that were constructed by municipalities and approved by the Department of Transportation prior to January 1, 1999. Although this bill was not passed, money for paying for all state and municipal priority 1 and 2 salt and sand storage facilities was included in the Part II Highway Budget. (See LD 957)

#### LD 61 An Act to Decriminalize Failure to Register a Motor Vehicle

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
AHEARNE	ONTP	_

LD 61 proposed to decriminalize failure to register a motor vehicle by removing the risk of jail time, but leave the maximum forfeiture that may be imposed at \$1,000.

#### LD 70 An Act to Enact the Railroad Trespass Prevention Act

**PUBLIC 318** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LINDAHL	OTP-AM	H-199
O'GARA		

LD 70 proposed to create a Railroad Trespass Prevention Act that made it illegal to trespass on railroad property without the railroad's consent and proposed a fine of not more than \$100 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days for such trespass. The bill also proposed to make it illegal to be a stowaway and proposed a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment of not more than 6 months for being a stowaway.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-199)** proposed to replace the bill and to increase the fine for standing or walking on a railroad track or railroad bridge from \$5 to \$20 per violation to \$5 to \$100 for the first offense, \$100 to \$500 for a second offense and \$500 to \$1000 for a 3rd and subsequent offenses. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 318, increases the fine for standing or walking on a railroad track or railroad bridge from \$5 to \$20 per violation to \$5 to \$100 for the first offense, \$100 to \$500 for a second offense and \$500 to \$1000 for a 3rd and subsequent offenses.

### LD 76 An Act to Eliminate the Fee Charged for Certain State Audits

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
CLARK	ONTP	MAJ	
CASSIDY	OTP	MIN	

LD 76 proposed to eliminate any fee charged an automobile dealer by the State to inspect the dealer's records.

# LD 81 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Hand-held Phones by Operators of Moving Motor Vehicles

**ONTP** 

Amendments Adopted	Report	Committee	Sponsor(s)
_	MAJ	ONTP	BOUFFARD
	MIN	OTP-AM	BERUBE

LD 81 proposed to make it a traffic infraction for a person to use a hand-held telephone while operating a motor vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-179), the minority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, proposed to replace and change the title of the bill, and require the Chief of the State Police to include information on a motor vehicle accident report as to whether or not the use of a cellular or car phone by a motor vehicle operator contributed to or was a factor in an accident. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

# LD 140 An Act to Require Insurance Companies to Notify the Secretary of State When the Insurance on a Registered Vehicle has Lapsed

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
MACDOUGALL	ONTP	MAJ	
MACKINNON	OTP	MIN	

LD 140 proposed to require insurance companies to notify the Secretary of State if an insured person allows the insurance to lapse on a motor vehicle.

# An Act to Allow Persons with Disabilities to Obtain More than One Disability Registration Plate

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
HARRIMAN	ONTP	
BUCK		

LD 167 proposed to allow a person with a disability to obtain more than one set of disability registration plates.

### LD 189 An Act to Require Seat Belts on School Buses

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BENOIT	ONTP	

LD 189 proposed that new school buses purchased after January 1, 2000 be equipped with safety seat belts for use by all passengers.

### LD 194 An Act to Increase Nonregular Island Ferry Service from 24 to 36 Trips

PUBLIC 20 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
PINGREE	OTP	MAJ	
VOLENIK	ONTP	MIN	

LD 194 proposed to increases the maximum number of State ferry service trips to Matinicus Isle from 24 trips a year to 36 trips a year.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 20 increases the maximum number of State ferry service trips to Matinicus Isle from 24 trips a year to 36 trips a year.

Chapter 20 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 19, 1999.

# LD 197 An Act to Promote Business and Economic Development by Helping Sign Manufacturers in Maine

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACDOUGALL	ONTP	

LD 197 proposed to create the Sign Manufacturer Revolving Loan Fund to assist advertising sign manufacturers in the State. The bill proposed that the fund be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine. The bill also proposed a General Fund appropriation of \$100,000 to the authority to capitalize the fund.

#### An Act to Abolish the Maine Turnpike Authority

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 BROOKS
 ONTP

LD 202 proposed to abolish the Maine Turnpike Authority and transfers its duties to the Department of Transportation.

# LD 210 An Act to Require Mandatory All-way Stops at Intersections with Nonfunctional Electrical Traffic Signals

**ONTP** 

LD 210 proposed to require drivers to stop at intersections with traffic lights that are broken.

# LD 216 An Act to Prohibit the Transportation of Open Containers that Contain

**PUBLIC 293** 

Liquor

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedO'NEILOTP-AMH-134H-345JABAR

LD 216 proposed to prohibit the transport of an open container of liquor by vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-134) proposed to replace the bill and to prohibit the operator of and passengers in a vehicle on a public way, including a right-of-way, from consuming alcohol or possessing an open alcoholic beverage container. The amendment proposed to make the operator responsible for the violation and included exceptions for vehicles without trunks, vehicles designed for hire other than taxicabs and vehicles with living quarters. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-345)** proposed to add an exemption for licensed off-site catering services to the provisions of the committee amendment dealing with transportation of opened containers of alcohol and proposed to amend the law pertaining to private transportation of partially consumed bottles of table wine to require that they be transported in compliance with the open container law proposed in the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 293, prohibits the operators and passengers in a vehicle on a public way, including a right-of-way, from consuming alcohol or possessing an open alcoholic beverage container. The operator responsible for any violation of this law. Exceptions are provided for vehicles without trunks, vehicles designed for hire, other than taxicabs, vehicles with living quarters and vehicles engaged in providing licensed off-site catering services.

### **An Act Concerning Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees**

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 USHER
 ONTP

LD 218 proposed to make the inspection fee for a motor vehicle the same throughout the State.

#### LD 221

An Act to Require Helmets for Children when Riding Bicycles, Allterrain Vehicles or Snowmobiles **ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) BAKER GOLDTHWAIT Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 221 proposed to require a person under 18 years of age who operates or is a passenger on a bicycle, ATV, snowmobile or any other motorized vehicle to wear a helmet.

#### LD 222

An Act to Alter the Firefighter License Plate

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
HONEY
KILKELLY

LD 222 proposes that the Secretary of State design a firefighter registration plate that uses the Maltese cross in addition to the current "FF."

### **LD 227**

An Act to Further Decriminalize Operating an Unregistered Vehicle

**PUBLIC 68** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedTHOMPSONOTP-AMH-83

LD 227 proposed to decriminalize operating an unregistered vehicle when the registration has expired within the last 120 days and to clarify that the owner of the vehicle is responsible for registering a vehicle that is operated on a public way.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-83)** proposed to redefine those offenses in the bill as a traffic infractions and to make failure to register a vehicle a civil violation instead of a Class E crime. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 68, decriminalizes operating an unregistered vehicle when the registration has expired within the last 120 days, clarifies that the owner of the vehicle is responsible for registering a vehicle that is operated on a

public way and redefines those offenses as a traffic infractions. This law also makes failure to register a vehicle a civil violation instead of a Class E crime.

# LD 229 An Act to Aid Enforcement of the Laws Regarding Insurance for Motor Vehicles

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
<b>GAGNE</b>
<b>FERGUSON</b>

Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 229 proposed to require that automobile insurance companies notify insurance holders at least 10 days before that policy is due to expire.

LD 236 Resolve, to Name the Bridge Between Bath and Woolwich the Sagadahoc Bridge

**RESOLVE 1** 

2110-90

Sponsor(s)
SMALL

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 236 proposed to name the new bridge between Bath and Woolwich the Sagadahoc Bridge.

### Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 1, names the new bridge between Bath and Woolwich the Sagadahoc Bridge.

#### LD 247 Resolve, to Improve Access to the Maine Turnpike

ONTP

<u>S</u>	ponsor(s)	
B	ENNETT	

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 247 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority install and maintain a barrier toll facility between exit 5 and exit 6 on the Maine Turnpike by July 1, 2002.

## LD 265 An Act to Provide for License Plates in Support of Domestic Violence

**CARRIED OVER** 

**Prevention Programs** 

Sponsor(s) BAGLEY PENDLETON Committee Repor

Amendments Adopted

LD 265 proposes to establish the Domestic Violence Prevention Fund and the domestic violence prevention registration plate, under which \$14 of the registration fee is dedicated to domestic violence prevention programs.

# Resolve, Requiring the Commissioner of Transportation to Report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation on Recreational Access to Water Bodies and Snowmobile Access Across Bridges

**RESOLVE 18** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedCAMERONOTP-AMH-198

LD 273 proposed that all new bridge construction, as well as reconstruction, provide for a sidewalk or lane dedicated and adequate for the use of off-road recreational vehicles such as snowmobiles.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-198) proposed to replace the bill, change the bill to a resolve and change the title of the bill.

The amendment proposed unallocated language directing the Department of Transportation and other state agencies to work on improving public and recreational access to water bodies and snowmobile access across bridges. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 18, requires the Commissioner of Transportation to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters in February 2001 and February 2003 on the progress of interagency efforts to improve public and recreational access to water bodies and snowmobile access across bridges. The scope of those interagency efforts are detailed in a memorandum of agreement signed prior to enactment of this law by the Department of Transportation, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation and the Department of Marine Resources.

### LD 278 An Act to Place Direction Signs on I-95 for the Lakeland Trail

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CARR	ONTP	
DAVIS P		

LD 278 proposed that signs be placed along both lanes of Interstate 95 in the Howland-Lincoln area informing travelers of the Lakeland Trail.

# LD 281 An Act to Dedicate the Revenue from the Increase in the Inspection Fee to the State Police and to Establish a Safety Inspection Advisory Board

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCKENNEY	ONTP	

LD 281 proposed that additional Highway Fund revenue collected from an increase in automobile inspection fees enacted in the last legislative session be dedicated to the motor vehicle inspection program within the Department of Public Safety and to the Safety Inspection Advisory Board, which was proposed to be established by this bill.

### An Act to Allow Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations to Set Their Own Fees for Inspections and to Require the Inspection of Brake Friction Material

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committe	ee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCKENNEY	ONTP	MAJ	
AMERO	OTP	MIN	

LD 282 proposed that inspection stations inspect the brake friction material of a vehicle as part of the standard vehicle inspection and proposed to repeal the statutorily set inspection fees, allowing inspection stations to set their own fees.

LD 311 An Act to Create a Registration Plate for Members of the Maine Snowmobile Association

**CARRIED OVER** 

Showmobile 11330clation

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
BENNETT

LD 311 proposes to authorize the issuance of a special registration plate for members of the Maine Snowmobile Association.

LD 319 An Act to Require Commercial Vehicle Operators Involved in Fatal Motor Vehicle Accidents to Submit to Drug Testing

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s) CASSIDY WHEELER G Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 319 proposes to require drug testing of commercial vehicle operators involved in fatal or potentially fatal motor vehicle accidents. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Public Safety.

LD 320 An Act to Amend the Law regarding Reportable Motor Vehicle Accidents

PUBLIC 61

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportDAVIS POTPMAJCROSSONTPMIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 320 proposed to increase from \$500 to \$1,000 the monetary amount of property damage for which a motor vehicle accident must be reported.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 61, increases from \$500 to \$1,000 the monetary amount of property damage for which a motor vehicle accident must be reported.

# LD 321 An Act to Create a License Plate for Veterans Who Served in Iwo Jima, CARRIED OVER Normandy or Desert Storm

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
HARRIMAN
BUCK

LD 321 proposes to create 3 additional special license plates for veterans who served at the battles of Iwo Jima and Normandy in World War II and in Operation Desert Storm in 1991. As with Purple Heart license plates, a one-time fee of \$10 will be charged to offset additional costs.

#### LD 323 An Act to Allow a Person to Erect One Advertising Sign

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee	Report	Amendments Adopted
DAVIS P	ONTP	MAJ	
PIEH	OTP-AM	MIN	

LD 323 proposed that a person or business employing fewer than 20 persons be allowed to place a sign on private property within one mile of the business.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-98) proposed to authorize towns to issue permits for off-site business advertising signs. The amendment proposed to limit each business to one sign. The amendment also proposed to prohibit towns from permitting signs larger than 16 square feet or that are illuminated or changeable signs, require that signs be placed only on private land in the town granting the permits and only with the permission of the landowner, allow no more than one permitted sign erected on any one parcel of land and to allow the towns to place other limitations on such signs, such as charging a fee for the permit. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

# LD 337 An Act to Allow Police Employees to Issue Temporary Permits to Operate Unregistered and Uninspected Vehicles

PUBLIC 41

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WHEELER E	OTP-AM	H-42
KIEFFER		

LD 337 proposed to add permit-certified police dispatchers to the list of people authorized to issue temporary permits allowing operation of uninspected vehicles to an inspection station.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-42) proposed to replace the original bill and change its title. The amendment proposed to allow an employee of a police or sheriff's department designated by the chief law enforcement officer of the department to issue a permit to tow an unregistered motor vehicle or to operate an uninspected motor vehicle to an inspection station for inspection.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 41, allows an employee of a police or sheriff's department designated by the chief law enforcement officer of the department to issue a permit to tow an unregistered motor vehicle or to operate an uninspected motor vehicle to an inspection station for inspection.

### LD 351 An Act to Include Marine Products on Roadside Signs

DIED BETWEEN BODIES

Sponsor(s)	Committee	Report	Amendments Adopted
PIEH	OTP-AM	MAJ	
KILKELLY	ONTP	MIN	

LD 351 proposed to allow sellers of marine products to post seasonal roadside signs.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-200) proposed to limit the eligibility for roadside signs advertising marine products to businesses that produce and sell the marine products on their premises and to allow those businesses to erect only signs that advertise marine products sold for human consumption. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-130)** proposed to allow a seller to erect signs advertising products produced or sold on the seller's premises, as in the original bill. This amendment also proposed to restrict a seller to erecting signs as proposed in the bill or using official business directional signs, but not both.

### LD 362

An Act to Require Written Explanation from the Department of Transportation When a Municipal Request to Change a Speed Limit is Denied PUBLIC 160

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WHEELER G	OTP-AM	H-236
PENDLETON		

LD 362 proposed to transfer authority for setting speed limits in municipalities from the Department of Transportation to municipalities, except for the interstate highway system or the Maine Turnpike. The bill also proposed to allow municipalities to establish passing and no-passing zones.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-236) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Transportation to explain in writing why a municipal request to change a speed limit was denied by the department and requires the department to offer to meet with the municipal officials in that municipality to explain the reasons for that denial. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 160, requires the Department of Transportation to explain in writing why a municipal request to change a speed limit was denied by the department and requires the department to offer to meet with the municipal officials in that municipality to explain the reasons for that denial.

## LD 370 Resolve, to Lower Certain Tolls on the Maine Turnpike

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MENDROS	ONTP	
BERUBE		

LD 370 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority reduce the toll to 50¢ for the New Gloucester and Gardiner toll booths.

# LD 378 An Act to Expand the Use of Emergency Equipment on Vehicles Operated by Liquor Enforcement Officers

PUBLIC 29

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
POVICH	OTP	
CAREY		

LD 378 proposed to remove the restriction that liquor enforcement officers use blue lights and sirens only when enforcing state liquor laws or the OUI law. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Public Safety.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 29, removes the restrictions on when liquor enforcement officers may use blue lights and sirens.

LD 425 An Act to Repeal the Law That Requires the Display of a Registration Plate on the Front of a Motor Vehicle

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
WINSOR	ONTP	

LD 425 proposed to make the display of a front plate optional for motor vehicles.

# LD 443 An Act to Require Notification of Automobile Registration Renewal Due Dates

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACK	ONTP	
PINGREE		

LD 443 proposed that the Secretary of State mail to any person whose motor vehicle registration is about to expire a notification of the pending expiration of the registration and an application to renew the registration.

### LD 451 An Act Concerning Capacity of School Buses

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
SULLIVAN ONTP

LD 451 proposed to limit to two the number of students who can sit on one school bus seat if the students are in the sixth grade or above.

# LD 463 An Act Concerning the Use of Road Repair or Construction Signs on State Highways

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
SULLIVAN ONTP

LD 463 proposed that construction signs be covered on state highways when no actual work is being performed, unless the construction work narrows the roadway.

### LD 493 An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to Entrances to Highways

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
NASS	ONTP	MAJ	
	OTP-AM	MIN	

LD 493 proposed that the highway entrance permit law include considerations of highway capacity in developing the rules and design requirements for driveways and entrances onto state and state-aid highways.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-431)** proposed that the Department of Transportation adopt major substantive rules regulating design, location and construction of driveways, entrances and approaches within the right-of-way of state and state aid highways. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### LD 495 An Act to Exempt Newspaper Deliverers from the Seat Belt Law

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NASS	ONTP	

LD 495 proposed to exempt a newspaper delivery person from the seat belt law while delivering newspapers.

# An Act to Amend the Fines for Operating an Uninspected or Unregistered Vehicle

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) SNOWE-MELLO HARRIMAN Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 502 proposed to make operating a motor vehicle with an invalid inspection sticker and operating a motor vehicle with an expired registration traffic infractions with a graduated schedule of forfeitures. The bill also proposed to prohibit the Secretary of State from assessing points against the violator's motor vehicle operator's license for a first-time offense but to assess points for a second violation if it occurs within two years of the first violation. This bill proposed that committing the same infraction three times within a 10-year period be a Class E crime punishable with a 30-day suspension of the violator's motor vehicle operator's license.

### LD 509 An Act to Promote Highway Safety

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) NUTTING J Committee Report

**Amendments Adopted** 

LD 509 proposed that the Secretary of State issue placards with a red "L" to all newly licensed drivers and that those drivers display the placard in the top left corner of the rear window of the newly licensed driver's motor vehicle for six months after issuance of the license.

# LD 518 Resolve, to Build Interchanges from the Maine Turnpike to Lincoln and Grove Streets in Lewiston

ONTP

Sponsor(s) MENDROS Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 518 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority construct interchanges to allow motorists to enter and exit the turnpike from Lincoln Street and Grove Street in Lewiston.

### LD 527

An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2000

P & S 19

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report OTP-AM Amendments Adopted H-237

LD 527 proposed allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2000 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-237) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 19, enacts the Turnpike Authority's budget for FY 2000.

LD 537 An Act to Appropriate Money to Extend Water Lines to Families in Gorham Whose Wells Were Polluted by Highway Construction Activity

**ONTP** 

LD 537 proposed to allocate \$280,000 to the Department of Transportation in fiscal year 1999-00 to defray the costs of extending water lines to a housing development in Gorham where residential wells have been polluted by the rupture of a chemical holding tank, caused by blasting activity during highway construction undertaken by the Department of Transportation.

### LD 539 An Act to Establish a Citizen Road Watch Program

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 DOUGLASS
 ONTP

 COTE

LD 539 proposed that the Bureau of State Police install and operate a toll-free line for receiving reports of motor vehicles being driven in a manner that endangers people. The bill proposed that the bureau work with the Department of Transportation to develop signs and public service announcements to make the public aware of a citizen road watch program.

# LD 552 An Act to Change the Minimum Time for Issuing a Temporary Registered Gross Weight Increase from 2 Months to One Month

**PUBLIC 466** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedWHEELER EOTP-AMH-178CASSIDY

LD 552 proposed to change the minimum time for issuing temporary gross weight licenses from 2 months to one month.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-178) proposed to adds a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 466, changes the minimum time for issuing temporary gross weight licenses from 2 months to one month.

#### An Act Concerning Rules of the Road Governing Traffic Rotaries

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
O'BRIEN L	ONTP	
DAGGETT		

LD 556 proposed that a motorist who is leaving a traffic circle or rotary intersection to be in the right lane 2 exits prior to leaving the circle.

### LD 590 An Act to Remove Tolls from Roads North of Portland

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted	
DOUGLASS	ONTP		

LD 590 proposed to prohibit the Maine Turnpike Authority from charging or collecting tolls for use of the turnpike from Exit 9 to the northern terminus of the turnpike.

# LD 606 Resolve, Naming the East-West Highway the Ronald Reagan International Highway

**ONTP** 

international ingilway

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACK	ONTP	
FERGUSON		

LD 606 proposes to name the proposed east-west highway the Ronald Reagan International Highway.

#### LD 619

An Act to Exempt the East-west Highway and Interstate 95 North of Houlton from the Sensible Transportation Policy Act

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CAMPBELL	ONTP	_

LD 619 proposed to exempt Interstate 95 north of Houlton and the East-west Highway from participating in the Sensible Transportation Policy Act.

# LD 647 An Act to Eliminate Tolls from the Maine Turnpike, Abolish the Turnpike Authority and Adjust Taxes on Automotive Fuel

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted	
MILLS	ONTP	_	

LD 647 proposed to merge the Maine Turnpike Authority into the Maine Department of Transportation, eliminate tolls on the Maine Turnpike effective October 1, 2002, require the State to issue its own general obligation highway bonds to fund the recall and payment of the balances due on all outstanding Maine Turnpike bonds and fund the new highway bonds by increasing the gas tax in York, Cumberland, Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties by five cents per gallon

and in all other counties by four cents per gallon. The bill also proposed that the one cent differential be in place for 10 years until the new bonds are paid and that the bill be submitted to referendum in June 2000, with the provisions to take effect October 1, 2002.

# LD 655 An Act to Increase the Penalty for Failure to Yield the Right-of-way to a Visually Impaired Pedestrian PUBLIC 92

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedDAGGETTOTP-AMS-51FULLER

LD 655 proposed to make failure to yield the right-of-way to a visually impaired person a specific traffic infraction and to double the fine for that infraction.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-51)** proposed to clarify the infraction of failure to yield the right-of-way to a visually impaired pedestrian and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 92, makes failure to yield the right-of-way to a visually impaired person a specific traffic infraction and doubles the fine for that infraction.

# LD 657 An Act to Require the Revocation of the Registration of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACKINNON	ONTP	
O'NEIL		

LD 657 proposed to require a law enforcement officer to summons a motor vehicle owner who can not provide evidence of insurance and to send a copy of the summons to the Secretary of State and to allow the State to suspend the motor vehicle's registration if the motor vehicle owner fails to provide proof of insurance to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles by the end of the next business day after the summons.

# LD 685 An Act to Withhold Work-restricted Licenses from Habitual Offenders Newly Convicted of Operating under the Influence or Who are not in Treatment Program

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 MARTIN
 ONTP

LD 685 proposed to allow a person whose license has been revoked under the habitual offender statutes to be eligible for a work-restricted license as long as the new offense is not operating under the influence and the person is participating actively in a substance abuse treatment program.

# An Act to Allow Motorcycles Operated for Traffic Enforcement to Emit a Combination of Blue and Red Light

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 DAVIS G
 ONTP

LD 695 proposed to allow the use of emergency lights that emit a combination of blue and red light on a motorcycle operated to enforce traffic laws.

# LD 718 An Act Pertaining to Maturity Dates of Bonds of the Maine Turnpike Authority

**PUBLIC 132** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
OTP

LD 718 proposed to allow for the issuance of bonds of the Maine Turnpike Authority with maturity determined in accordance with current practices of the national bond market by removing restricting language on maturity dates. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 132, allows the Turnpike Authority to set maturity dates of its bonds.

#### LD 764 An Act to Amend Certain Aviation Laws

**PUBLIC 131** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
PARADIS	OTP-AM	S-97
BOUFFARD		

LD 764 proposed several amendments to the aviation laws. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-97) proposed to make technical clarifications to the bill and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 131, amends the aviation laws by directing that an air carrier be certified under Federal Air Regulations instead of the Civil Aeronautics Board, adding definitions for "commercial activity," "FAA," "private airport" and "utility airport," amending duties and powers of the Commissioner of Transportation, clarifying that the Department of Transportation is responsible for the inspection of utility airports and private airports with commercial activity, amending the aeronautics laws to be consistent with the term "utility airport" instead of the term "noncommercial airport," giving airports the authority to provide aircraft fuel servicing and changing the required number of meetings of the Maine Aeronautical Advisory Board.

### Resolve, to Name the Route 160 Bridge in Bownfield Spanning the Saco River the Charles E. Hill Memorial Bridge

RESOLVE 9 EMERGENCY

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 TRUE
 OTP
 H-65 JABAR

 CAREY

LD 772 proposed to name the Route 160 bridge that crosses the Saco River in the Town of Brownfield the Charles E. Hill Bridge after a prominent local citizen.

**House Amendment "A" (H-65)** proposed to change the name proposed in the resolve to the Charles E. Hill Memorial Bridge to reflect the recent death of Charles E. Hill.

#### Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 9, changes the name of the Route 160 bridge that crosses the Saco River in the Town of Brownfield to the Charles E. Hill Memorial Bridge in memory of a recently deceased prominent local citizen.

Chapter 9 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 5, 1999.

#### LD 774

An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Movement of a Mobile Home Over a Public Way and the Movement of Objects Requiring an Overlimit Movement Permit **PUBLIC 117** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedMACKOTP-AMH-177

LD 774 proposed to make the traffic infraction of moving a mobile home when taxes are unpaid on the mobile home punishable by a forfeiture of \$250. The bill also proposed to allow evidence that the mobile home was moved as sufficient to prove a violation even if there was no direct witness to the event.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-177) proposed to replace the bill and change its title.

The amendment proposed to allow the operator of a vehicle hauling a mobile home on a public way to demonstrate payment of municipal property taxes with either an over-dimension moving permit issued by the Secretary of State or a receipt from the municipality showing proof of payment of those taxes. The amendment also proposed to clarify that a person who moves an object over the public way in violation of the section of law requiring overlimit movement permits commits a traffic infraction. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 117, allows the operator of a vehicle hauling a mobile home on a public way to demonstrate payment of municipal property taxes with either an over-dimension moving permit issued by the Secretary of State or a receipt from the municipality showing proof of payment of those taxes. The law also clarifies that a person who moves an object over the public way in violation of the section of law requiring overlimit movement permits commits a traffic infraction.

#### An Act to Increase Motor Vehicle Inspection Fees

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 HATCH
 ONTP

LD 779 proposed increases in the fees for certain motor vehicle inspections.

### LD 783

An Act to Require That Farm Tractors and Skidders Driven on a Public Way be Registered and Insured

ONTP

Sponsor(s) TRACY Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 783 proposed that tractors and skidders driven on public roads be registered and covered by liability insurance.

#### LD 786

### An Act to Limit the Storage Fee Charged for Impounded Vehicles

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) SKOGLUND Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 786 proposed that agencies or law enforcement officers who impound a motor vehicle notify the owner of the motor vehicle of the location of the vehicle within 24 hours, that the towing fee be prohibited from being more than a normal towing fee and that the maximum storage fee be set at \$25 per day to a total of \$100 maximum. The bill also proposed that the vehicle may be forfeited if the owner does not claim the motor vehicle within 30 days of notice.

#### LD 820

# An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding the Payment of the Application Fee for a Motorcycle Dealer License

PUBLIC 97

Sponsor(s) WATSON KONTOS Committee Report
OTP-AM

Amendments Adopted H-123

LD 820 proposed to allow a vehicle dealer who has taken a motorcycle in trade for a vehicle either to test the motorcycle or drive it to and from an inspection station using a dealer plate.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-123)** proposed to replace the bill and proposed that a vehicle dealer only pays the license and plate fees when applying for a motorcycle dealer license.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 97, allows a vehicle dealer to only pay the license and plate fees when applying for a motorcycle dealer license.

### An Act to Increase the Frequency With Which Message Boards May Change Their Message

**PUBLIC 123** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
POVICH	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-125
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 825 proposed to allow a public institution that has changeable message board signs on its premises to change the message every 10 minutes, rather than the four-hour limit currently in law.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-125) proposed to increase the time period proposed in the bill from 10 minutes to 20 minutes.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 123, allows a public institution that has changeable message board signs on its premises to change the message every 20 minutes.

LD 828 An Act to Coincide Motor Vehicle Registration and Inspection Dates

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARVIN	ONTP	

LD 828 proposed that certificates of inspection expire at the end of the month in which the registration expires.

LD 830 An Act to Remove Uninsured Vehicles from State and Town Roads

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GOODWIN	ONTP	_
CATHCART		

LD 830 proposed certain notification requirements when a person's automobile insurance lapses.

LD 837 An Act to Provide Special Registration Plates Free of Charge to Purple Heart Recipients

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MARVIN	ONTP	
MICHAUD		

LD 837 proposed to remove the fees associated with the special motor vehicle registration plates provided to Purple Heart recipients.

# An Act to Increase Sanctions for Passing School Buses that Have Red Lights Flashing

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
POWERS	ONTP	MAJ	
	OTP	MIN	

LD 884 proposed to amend the penalties for illegally passing a school bus that is stopped and has its red lights flashing by adding a mandatory 30-day license suspension for a first offense, allowing a first-time offender the option of serving 80 hours of community service to the school district in lieu of the license suspension, increasing the mandatory license suspension from 30 to 90 days for a second offense and decreasing the length of time from three years to two years after a first offense for which a second offense will carry a mandatory 90-day license suspension.

### LD 896 An Act to Require Identification for Hearing Impaired Persons

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
SNOWE-MELLO	ONTP	_
DOUGLASS		

LD 896 proposed that the Secretary of State indicate a hearing impairment on a driver's license or state nondriver identification card and to issue a placard indicating that a driver is hearing impaired if the hearing-impaired person provides the Secretary of State with medical documentation of the impairment.

### LD 902 An Act to Limit Load Weights on State Roads

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
POWERS	ONTP	

LD 902 proposed to limit to 80,000 pounds the gross vehicle weight of vehicles traveling on roads in Maine.

# LD 929 An Act to Require Reflective Material or Lamps on the Front of Utility PUBLIC 108 Trailers

Sponsor(s)	Committee	Report	Amendments Adopted
STANLEY	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-148
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 929 proposed to require that a snowmobile trailer or a utility trailer be equipped with orange reflectors on both front sides if the trailer is wider than the vehicle towing the trailer.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-148)**, the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, proposed to replace the bill and change its title.

The amendment proposed to require that reflective material or lamps visible to oncoming traffic be located on the front corners of trailers that are wider than the vehicle towing the trailer. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 108, requires that reflective material or lamps visible to oncoming traffic be located on the front corners of trailers that are wider than the vehicle towing the trailer. Shortly after being chaptered, this law was further amended to apply to both trailers and semitrailers.

### LD 938 An Act to Allow the Department of Transportation to Designate Nopassing Zones Upon Request From a Municipality

**PUBLIC 171** 

Sponsor(s) WHEELER G KONTOS Committee Report OTP-AM Amendments Adopted H-256

LD 938 proposed to prohibit a person from crossing a solid no-passing line painted in the center of a road except in an emergency.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-256) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to allow a municipality to request that the Department of Transportation designate segments of two-lane roads in primarily residential areas of the municipality as no-passing zones and to require that the department approve such requests unless the commissioner determines that granting the request will unreasonably restrict the efficient flow of traffic or result in a threat to public safety in that location. The amendment proposed that all decisions of the commissioner must be in writing and must be made within 30 days after receiving a request.

The amendment proposed that if a request is approved, the Department of Transportation must stripe the road with double, solid, yellow center lines and post the road as no-passing. The municipality would be required to reimburse the department for all posting costs. Passing in a no-passing zone designated by the commissioner is a traffic infraction.

The amendment proposed that if a municipal request is denied, the Department of Transportation is required, at the request of the municipality, to hold a public hearing in the municipality. A final decision of the department would be required within 30 days after the hearing is held.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 171, enacts as law the provision proposed in Committee Amendment "A".

### LD 951 An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

**PUBLIC 183** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedPARADISOTP-AMS-107

LD 951 proposed several changes to the motor vehicle laws. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Public Safety.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-107) proposed to remove several sections of the bill that have been addressed by other bills during this session and to remove a section that proposed to make selling or equipping a vehicle with certain after market items a Class E crime. The amendment also proposed to repeal obsolete language pertaining to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation's review of rules adopted by the Chief of the State Police and enacts the standard language required to ensure legislative review of major substantive rules under the Administrative Procedure Act. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 183, moves language prohibiting a skidder with chains being driven on a paved way from a section regarding registration to new section under rules of the road, repeals unnecessary language regarding adoption of the Federal Code of Regulations by reference, requires special mobile equipment to be equipped with adequate brakes, clarifies that the prohibition against aftermarket tinting of windows in motor vehicles applies only to vehicles required to be registered in the State, prohibits reading while operating a motor vehicle, prohibits the towing wheels of a semitrailer or trailer clarifies from crossing the center part of a rotary or traffic circle, prohibits driving through a parking area to avoid a traffic control device such as a red light, expands the prohibition against riding in a towed vehicle to include a vehicle being towed by a wrecker or by use of a towbar, clarifies that the penalty for refusing to follow the direction of a law enforcement officer attempting to divert vehicular or pedestrian traffic for a special event applies to vehicle operators and to pedestrians, prohibits riding in the trunk of a moving vehicle, expands the prohibition against passing a stopped school bus to include buses stopped in parking areas, repeals obsolete language pertaining to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation's review of rules adopted by the Chief of the State Police and enacts the standard language required to ensure legislative review of major substantive rules under the Administrative Procedure Act.

LD 957

An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001

PUBLIC 473 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
JABAR	OTP-AM	H-752
O'GARA		H-755 JABAR

LD 957 proposed a Part II Highway Fund Budget.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-728) was the majority report of the committee and proposed the following:

Part A: appropriate funds from the General Fund and allocates funds from the Highway Fund.

Part B: increase the gas tax by 2¢ effective August 1, 1999.

Parts C and D: restructure the Local Road Assistance Program as the new Rural Road Initiative and Urban Compact Initiative.

Part E: require the Department of Transportation to report to the Legislature regarding urban capital programming and municipal participation in state aid minor collector capital projects.

Part F: require municipal disbursements to be made according to formulas existing prior to the effective date of the Act.

Part G: delay the production of dealer plates by one year.

Part H: require the Department of Transportation, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of State to submit a report recommending possible alternatives to the gas tax

Part I: appropriate funds from the General Fund to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to properly reflect the distribution of gasoline tax set aside required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903-B.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-729) was the minority report of the committee and proposed the following.

Part A: allocate funds from the Highway Fund.

Part B: increase the gas tax by  $3\phi$  effective August 1, 1999, by an additional  $1\phi$  effective July 1, 2000 and by an additional  $1\phi$  effective July 1, 2001.

Parts C and D: restructure the Local Road Assistance Program as the new Rural Road Initiative and Urban Compact Initiative.

Part E: require the Department of Transportation to report to the Legislature regarding urban capital programming and municipal participation in state aid minor collector capital projects.

Part F: require municipal disbursements to be made according to formulas existing prior to the effective date of the Act.

Part G: delay the production of dealer plates by one year.

Part H: require the Department of Transportation, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of State to submit a report recommending possible alternatives to the gas tax

Part I: appropriate funds from the General Fund to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to properly reflect the distribution of gasoline tax set aside required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903-B.

**Committee Amendment "C" (H-752)** was a unanimous committee report prepared after the bill was re-referred back to Committee following the failure of either earlier Committee amendment to pass. Committee amendment C proposed the following.

Part A: allocate funds from the Highway Fund.

Part B: increase the gas tax by 3¢ effective August 1, 1999.

Parts C and D: restructure the Local Road Assistance Program as the new Rural Road Initiative and Urban Compact Initiative.

Part E: require the Department of Transportation to report to the Legislature regarding urban capital programming and municipal participation in state aid minor collector capital projects.

Part F: require municipal disbursements to be made according to formulas existing prior to the effective date of the Act.

Part G: delay the production of dealer plates by one year.

Part H: require the Department of Transportation, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Department of Public Safety and the Secretary of State to submit a report recommending possible alternatives to the gas tax.

Part I: appropriate funds from the General Fund to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to properly reflect the distribution of gasoline tax set aside required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 2903-B.

Part J: assess an additional annual \$2 fee on registration fees for environmental registration plates, University of Maine System plates, antique vehicle registration plates, temporary registration plates, motor vehicles, commercial motor vehicles, farm trucks, motor homes, truck campers, trailers and semitrailers, special mobile equipment, motorcycles and parking control vehicles, stock cars, emergency vehicles, firefighter registration plates, specialty equipment, disability registration plates, special veterans registration plates and veterans vanity plates.

Part K: allocate funds from the Highway Fund.

**House Amendment "B" to Committee Amendment "C" (H-755)** proposed to clarify that a person is subject only to an additional \$2 fee payable at the time of registration for each vehicle registered.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 473, enacts as law the provisions of Committee amendment "C" as amended by House Amendment "B".

Chapter 473 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

#### LD 958

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and Highway Funds and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001

PUBLIC 152 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
JABAR	OTP-AM	H-255
O'GARA		

LD 958 proposed the Part I biennial Highway Fund Budget does the following.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-255) proposed several amendments to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 152, does the following:

Part A allocates and appropriates funds for current services for the 2000-2001 biennium.

Part B makes allocations from the Highway Fund as adjustments to the amounts in Part A. Part B also makes additional allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund.

Part C allocates funds from the Highway Fund to provide funding for approved reclassifications.

Part D deallocates funds from the Highway Fund to pay for approved reclassifications.

Part E provides that employees of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority, solely for the purposes of participating in the retirement and health insurance programs that apply to state employees, come under the state employee retirement provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, Part 20 and the state employee health insurance program of Title 5, chapter 13, subchapter II.

Part F repeals language regarding gubernatorial appointments to the Travel Information Advisory Council. The repealed language addresses appointments that have long since expired.

Part G clarifies that the Adopt-A-Highway Program is allowed on town ways. It also makes clear that Adopt-A-Highway Program signs are allowed as categorical signs pursuant to the Traveler Services Information Act.

Part H waives the requirement that the Department of Transportation report to the Legislature on the permitting of experimental vehicles if there has been no such activity during the report period.

Part I deletes the requirement that the Maine Aeronautical Advisory Board submit a written annual report to the Commissioner of Transportation.

Chapter 152 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 11, 1999.

# LD 965 An Act to Require the State to Reimburse Licensed Vehicle Inspection Stations for Unused Inspection Stickers

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
KASPRZAK	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-147
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 965 proposed to allow inspection stations to receive a refund for all unused inspection stickers. Current law provided that refunds or exchanges may only be made for full sheets of unused stickers.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-147)** was the majority report of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and proposed that the State Police credit inspection stations for unused or expired inspection stickers. The amendment also proposed to add an allocation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

### LD 977 An Act to Improve Motorcycle Safety

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
KONTOS	ONTP	

LD 977 proposed that a person applying for a motorcycle instruction permit must possess a valid motor vehicle operator's license. This bill also proposed to prohibit a person with a motorcycle permit from operating a motorcycle with a passenger.

# LD 998 An Act to Preserve and Improve Public Access to Inland and Coastal Waters

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
HARRIMAN	ONTP	_
SAXL M		

LD 998 proposed to create a Recreational Access Committee to provide direction to the Commissioner of Transportation on improvements to state roads and bridges to allow for safe access for recreation and fishing.

LD 1005 An Act to Equalize Tolls

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 SHIELDS
 ONTP

LD 1005 proposed that the Maine Turnpike Authority structure its toll rates so that the toll charged for traveling to and from Augusta on either Interstate 95 or Interstate 495 is equal.

LD 1009 An Act to Require Notification of Motor Vehicle Registration Expiration

**ONTP** 

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 ETNIER
 ONTP

LD 1009 proposed that the Secretary of State notify the owner of a motor vehicle of the registration expiration date.

LD 1020 An Act to Improve Cultural Information on the Interstate

ONTP

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedCOWGERONTPDAGGETT

LD 1020 proposed to construct a sign near Exit 30 informing travelers of the Maine State Capitol and the Maine State Museum.

LD 1032 An Act to Require Motor Vehicles to Stop for All Pedestrians in a Marked Crosswalk

**PUBLIC 101** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedSTEVENSOTP-AMH-124

LD 1032 proposed that the operators of motor vehicles stop for a pedestrian when that pedestrian is within any part of a crosswalk that is not regulated by a traffic-control device.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-124)** proposed to clarify that the requirement to stop for pedestrians applies to pedestrians within a "marked crosswalk". The amendment also proposed to change the title of the bill to reflect that intent and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 101 requires operators of motor vehicles to stop for pedestrians within any part of a marked crosswalk that is not regulated by a traffic-control device.

LD 1034 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Repair Route 2
Between Skowhegan and Newport

ONTP

Sponsor(s) HATCH MILLS Committee Report ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1034 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to repair Route 2 between Skowhegan and Newport by January 1, 2002.

LD 1040

An Act to Allow all Fines Collected by the Maine Court System as a Result of Evasion of Fare Laws to be Transferred to the Maine Turnpike Authority ONTP

Sponsor(s) TUTTLE Committee Report
ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1040 proposed to require a court to transfer to the Maine Turnpike Authority the proceeds received by the court from a penalty for failure to pay a toll. The bill also proposed to allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to transfer up to 20% of these proceeds back to the court.

### LD 1071 An Act Requiring Notification of Violation to Motor Carriers

ONTP

Sponsor(s) O'GARA KNEELAND Committee Report ONTP

Amendments Adopted

LD 1071 proposed to require that a motor carrier be notified if that person is cited for a motor vehicle violation or identified as the responsible motor carrier on a summons, complaint or motor carrier compliance report.

### LD 1076 An Act to Simplify the Process of Claiming Abandoned Vehicles

**PUBLIC 137** 

Sponsor(s) LIBBY MCALEVEY Committee Report OTP-AM Amendments Adopted

LD 1076 proposed to eliminate current provisions in law pertaining to abandoned vehicles. The bill proposed to repeal requirements for publishing a notice if the owner of an abandoned vehicle is unknown and waiting 14 days before seeking a change in ownership from the Secretary of State and to repeal a requirement for sending notice by certified

mail to a known owner of an abandoned vehicle. The bill also proposed that the person mailing the notice would no longer be required to wait 14 days after mailing the notice to seek a change in ownership from the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-76) proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to remove the requirement that the person claiming an abandoned vehicle send a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and lienholder, if any. The Secretary of State, on proper notification, would be required to write the letter formally notifying the current owner. This amendment also proposed to require only one newspaper advertisement when the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Motor Vehicles can not find any record of an owner or lienholder for a vehicle. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 137 removes the requirement that the person claiming an abandoned vehicle send a notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the owner and lienholder, if any. The Secretary of State, on proper notification, is required to write a letter formally notifying the current owner and to post one newspaper advertisement when the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Motor Vehicles can not find any record of an owner or lienholder for a vehicle.

# LD 1099 An Act to Exempt the Requirement that All Municipal Taxes Be Paid in Advance of Moving a Mobile Home

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TESSIER	OTP-AM	H-176
HARRIMAN		

LD 1099 proposed to exempt a person from the requirement of having to pay all types of municipal taxes on a mobile home before moving the mobile home if the person is moving the mobile home from one location in a municipality to another location within the same municipality.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-176)** proposed to replace the bill. The amendment proposed to allow a municipality to waive the requirement that local taxes on a mobile home be paid prior to obtaining an overlimit movement permit if the home is being moved to another location in the same town for reasons not related to the sale of the home.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 125 allows a municipality to waive the requirement that local taxes on a mobile home be paid prior to obtaining an overlimit movement permit if the home is being moved to another location in the same town for reasons not related to the sale of the home.

### LD 1100 An Act to Improve the Enforcement of Traffic Laws

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
NORBERT	ONTP	

LD 1100 proposed a 20% surcharge on traffic fines and forfeitures and to remit that amount to the political subdivision issuing the traffic summons. It also proposed to remit 50% of any increases in fines and forfeitures collected after October 1, 1999 to the political subdivision issuing the traffic summons.

# An Act to Set Minimum Standards for Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committe	e Report	Amendments Adopted
MCKENNEY	ONTP	MAJ	
CAREY	OTP	MIN	

LD 1138 proposed to require a motor vehicle inspection station, except for a fleet inspection station not engaged in retail work, to have legal and general liability insurance, to display a valid sales tax registration certificate and, if the station is a corporation, to display a federal tax identification number.

LD 1159 An Act to Create the Calais to Eastport Rail Authority and Transfer State Ownership of Certain Railroad Rights-of-way

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GOODWIN	ONTP	

LD 1159 proposed to create the Calais to Eastport Rail Authority to establish freight rail service between Calais and Eastport. The bill proposed to transfer to the authority the Department of Transportation's interest in the existing rail line between Calais and Ayers Junction and to transfer the Department of Transportation's interest in the existing rail line between Ayers Junction and the Hancock County line to those municipalities through which the line runs.

### LD 1161 An Act to Create the East-West Highway Authority

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
GOODWIN	ONTP	

LD 1161 proposed to create the East-West Highway Authority to construct a highway from Calais to the New Hampshire border with an extension to the border of the Province of Quebec, Canada.

# LD 1163 An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Suspension or Revocation of Driver's Licenses for Failure to File a Report

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MITCHELL B	ONTP	
KASPRZAK		

LD 1163 proposed to require the Secretary of State to notify a person whose driver's license has been suspended or revoked within 10 days of that suspension or revocation and to provide information on the reinstatement procedures and fees.

# An Act to Amend Weight Requirement Inequalities Between Hauling Wood Products and Hauling Other Products

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
KASPRZAK

LD 1179 proposes to amend the weight tolerance for certain trucks by allowing a maximum load of 64,000 pounds on the tri-axle unit of a 4-axle single-unit vehicle that carries certain materials. These materials include building materials that absorb moisture during delivery originating and terminating within the State, bark, sawdust, firewood, sawed lumber, dimension lumber, pulpwood, wood chips, logs, soil, unconsolidated rock material including limestone, bolts, farm produce, road salt, manufacturer's concrete products, solid waste or incinerator ash, highway construction materials, products requiring refrigeration and raw ore when transported from a mine or quarry to a place of processing. Under current law, the tolerance applies only to the tri-axle unit of a 4-axle single-unit vehicle that carries forest products.

# LD 1184 An Act to Amend the Inspection Process for Motor Vehicles That Fail Inspection

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) MCKENNEY Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 1184 proposed to require that the owner of a motor vehicle that failed an inspection test be given a defect report and that a failure sticker be placed on the vehicle. The bill proposed to allow the owner one month to repair the defect that caused the vehicle to fail inspection. The bill also proposed to allow the inspection station to receive a refund for a partially used sheet of inspection stickers.

#### LD 1207 An Act to Amend the Local Highway Laws

**PUBLIC 337** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
HARRIMAN	OTP-AM	H-573 JABAR
		S-169

LD 1207 proposed to provide towns with the same authority that cities have to regulate excavations of local highways. The term "municipal officers" is substituted for "city government" to include different forms of local government. Additionally, the bill proposed to include the reasonable cost of municipal inspections and of the reduced life of the roadway among the costs that may be assessed. The bill clarifies that municipalities have the right to protect local highways and this right may not be preempted by other laws governing the regulation of utilities. The bill adds a definition of the term "base material."

Committee Amendment "A" (S-169) proposed to remove the language in the bill allowing municipalities to charge a fee to cover the reduced life of a road resulting from a road cut. The amendment also proposed to add language allowing municipalities to require that a cut into a road within the first 5 years after the road is resurfaced be repaved for a distance at least 20 feet in from the furthest edges of the cut across the entire width of the road to minimize construction joints.

The amendment also proposed to allow municipalities to enter into agreements requiring the utility or other entity that creates the cut to repave the cut.

The amendment also proposed several technical corrections to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" (H-573)** proposed to amend the bill to correctly indicate the deletion of old language and the addition of new language.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 337 allows municipalities to charge a fee to cover the reduced life of a road resulting from a road cut. The law also allows municipalities to require that a cut into a road within the first 5 years after the road is resurfaced be repaved for a distance at least 20 feet in from the furthest edges of the cut across the entire surface of the road.

# LD 1226 An Act to Amend the Seat Belt Law Regarding the Enforcement of Penalties

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportPERKINSONTP MAJCASSIDYOTP-AM MIN

Amendments Adopted

LD 1226 proposed to restore statutory language that was repealed in 1997 which stated that a person not wearing a seat belt could only be fined for the primary violation, the reason the person was originally stopped.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-175) proposed to add an appropriation section and a fiscal note to the bill.

### LD 1250 An Act to Allow a Change in a Vehicle Registration Date

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
COWGER	ONTP	
KILKELLY		

LD 1250 proposed to allow the owner of a registered motor vehicle to change the month in which the registration expires once every five years and to allow the registration agent to charge a fee of up to \$10 to accommodate the change.

### LD 1307 An Act Regarding Required Lights on Plow Trucks

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LOVETT	ONTP	

LD 1307 proposed to require a truck equipped with a snow plow to operate all required auxiliary lights at all times when the vehicle is in operation on a public way.

#### An Act Regarding Taxation of Low-energy Fuels

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DUDLEY		
KONTOS		

LD 1337 proposes to amend the Special Fuel Tax Act by including the definitions of "clean fuel vehicle," "clean fuel" and "gasoline gallon equivalent." The bill also proposes to set the tax for clean fuel at 1/2 of the amount applicable to a gallon of distillate fuel.

#### LD 1381

#### An Act to Make the Use of Halogen Lights on Motor Vehicles Illegal

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BOLDUC	ONTP	

LD 1381 proposed to prohibit the use of halogen headlights on motor vehicles.

### LD 1385

An Act to Allow Emergency Medical Technicians to Draw Blood Samples for Alcohol Analysis **ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
COWGER	ONTP	

LD 1385 proposed to allow emergency medical technicians and other qualified personnel to draw blood samples for alcohol analysis.

#### LD 1429

#### An Act to Add Members to the Maine Turnpike Authority

PUBLIC 177

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LEMOINE	OTP-AM	H-238
DENIDI ETON		

LD 1429 proposed to increase the membership of the Maine Turnpike Authority to include two members appointed by the President of the Senate and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House and to make the Public Advocate an ex officio member of the Authority.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-238) proposed to replace the bill and to increase the membership of the Maine Turnpike Authority from five to seven members by creating a sixth membership position on August 1, 2000 and a seventh membership position on August 1, 2002. The new members would be appointed in the same manner provided by current law. After August 1, 2002, the quorum of the authority be increased from three to 4 members and that the Governor be required after that date to ensure that the authority includes one person who is a resident from each of the counties in which the turnpike is located and who is named by the Governor as that county's representative on the authority. The amendment also proposed that the term of a member who is named as a representative from one of those counties terminates when that person's residency changes to another county.

The amendment also proposed that these changes do not affect the appointment or term of any member of the turnpike authority appointed prior to the effective date of this legislation. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 177 increases the membership of the Maine Turnpike Authority from five to seven members by creating a sixth membership position on August 1, 2000 and a seventh membership position on August 1, 2002. The new members are appointed in the same manner provided by current law. After August 1, 2002, the quorum of the authority is increased from three to 4 members and the Governor is required after that date to ensure that the authority includes one person who is a resident from each of the counties in which the turnpike is located and who is named by the Governor as that county's representative on the authority. The law also provides that the term of a member who is named as a representative from one of those counties terminates when that person's residency changes to another county.

The law also states that these changes do not affect the appointment or term of any member of the turnpike authority appointed prior to the effective date of this legislation.

# LD 1462 An Act to Establish a Pilot Program to Allow Private Driving School Instructors to Conduct Driver Operation Examinations

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) BRAGDON MITCHELL B Committee Report ONTP Amendments Adopted

LD 1462 proposed to establish a two-year pilot program allowing certified driver education instructors to conduct road tests for Class C driver license applicants and to require the Secretary of State to report on the success of this program to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

# LD 1489 An Act Regarding the Operation of a Motorized or Electric Bicycle on a PUBLIC 170 Public Way

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted STANWOOD OTP

LD 1489 proposed to clarify that a motorized bicycle or tricycle may be operated by a person with a valid license of any class.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 170 clarifies that a motorized bicycle or tricycle may be operated by a person with a valid license of any class.

#### LD 1491 An Act to Improve Access to Driver Education

ONTP

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
SHERMAN ONTP

LD 1491 proposed to remove the license fee for driver education schools and driver education teachers and instructors who are also certified teachers in public and private secondary schools. The bill also proposed to require that the Secretary of State make certain changes to the policies governing driver education programs and the licensing and relicensing of driver education teachers and instructors.

LD 1543

### An Act to Create a Bicycle Safety Education Act

**PUBLIC 331** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
BRENNAN	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-378
PARADIS	ONTP	MIN	

LD 1543 proposed to create the Bicycle Safety Act, which requires operators and passengers of bicycles who are under 16 years of age to wear bicycle helmets, requires the Department of Education to develop bicycle safety education guidelines, requires sellers and renters of bicycles to post a notice explaining the provisions of the Bicycle Safety Act and requires law enforcement officers to provide an operator of a bicycle in violation of the Bicycle Safety Act with information on the act.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-378)** proposed to rename the Bicycle Safety Act the Bicycle Safety Education Act and make several amendments to the bill to clarify liability and evidentiary issues pertaining to the use and nonuse of bicycle helmets.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 331 establishes the Bicycle Safety Act Education requires operators and passengers of bicycles who are under 16 years of age to wear bicycle helmets, and requires the Department of Education to develop bicycle safety education guidelines, requires sellers and renters of bicycles to post a notice explaining the provisions of the Bicycle Safety Act and requires law enforcement officers to provide an operator of a bicycle in violation of the Bicycle Safety Act with information on the act.

### LD 1570

An Act to Require the Department of Transportation to Cut Brush and Trees Along a Highway at the Request of a Business

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
CAMPBELL	ONTP	

LD 1570 proposed to require the Department of Transportation to remove trees and brush within the right-of-way of a state or state aid highway when a business requests the service to increase visibility of the business from the highway and to require a business to reimburse the department for any costs incurred.

# LD 1576 An Act to Strengthen the Motor Vehicle Laws Pertaining to Registration CARRIED OVER of Motor Vehicles

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LEMONT		

LD 1576 proposes to amend the motor vehicle laws to change the definitions of "resident" and "owner" and to repeal the provision that would exempt a nonresident from registration and licensing laws of this State if the state that nonresident was from offered the same exemption to a resident of this State if that resident was in that state.

# An Act to Evaluate the Compensation of Members of the Maine Turnpike Authority

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
WHEELER G
PARADIS

LD 1579 is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. It proposes to establish a mechanism to evaluate and change the compensation of members of the Maine Turnpike Authority.

LD 1612

An Act to Clarify Language in the Motor Vehicle Laws with Respect to Farm Equipment

ONTP

Sponsor(s)
LONGLEY

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1612 proposed to clarify that equipment dealer plates and a license may be issued to manufacturers of or dealers in motorized farm equipment, but that dealers of nonmotorized farm equipment do not require dealer plates or licenses.

LD 1633

An Act to Create a Transporter License Plate for Light Trailers

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s) HARRIMAN Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

LD 1633 proposes to establish transporter plates and licenses to allow a business to transport an unregistered light trailer. A light trailer is a trailer or semi-trailer with an unladen gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less.

LD 1637

An Act Regarding the Boundaries of State and State Aid Highways

**PUBLIC 188** 

Sponsor(s) O'GARA JABAR Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

S-108

LD 1637 proposed to establish a method for determining the boundaries of state or state aid highways in cases where there is no recorded layout of the highway or in cases where the boundary is uncertain and for transferring to abutting property owners any interest that may pass to the Department of Transportation upon the discontinuance by a town or county, of a way that has been reconstructed by the department. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-108)** proposed to make a series of technical corrections and clarifications to the bill and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 188, establishes a method for determining the boundaries of state or state aid highways in cases where there is no recorded layout of the highway or in cases where the boundary is uncertain and for transferring to abutting property owners any interest that may pass to the Department of Transportation upon the discontinuance by a town or county, of a way that has been reconstructed by the department.

## LD 1638 Resolve, to Review Traffic Congestion Including Truck Traffic along the Route 1 York Corridor and Route 236 Corridor

RESOLVE 64 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee	Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE	OTP-AM	MAJ	S-117
WHEELER G	ONTP	MIN	S-463 MICHAUD

LD 1638 proposed to establish a study commission to review traffic congestion and related environmental problems along the U. S. Route 1 corridor and area roadways in the York County area and make recommendations to reduce traffic congestion.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-117)** proposed to clarify that the study report is to go to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and to the Commissioner of Transportation and to add an appropriation and a fiscal note to the resolve.

**Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-463)** proposed to expand the subject of the study to include traffic congestion along the Route 236 corridor between Kittery and Berwick, delete the authorization for legislative per diem for public members and revise the membership to include one representative of each of the following towns, appointed by the manager of each town: Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells and York.

### Enacted law summary

Resolve 1999, chapter 64 establishes a study commission to review traffic congestion and related environmental problems along the U. S. Route 1 corridor and area roadways in the York County area and traffic congestion along the Route 236 corridor between Kittery and Berwick.

Chapter 64 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

## LD 1639 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Maine State Pilotage Commission

PUBLIC 355 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
O'GARA	OTP-AM	S-168
JABAR		

LD 1639 proposed several changes to the laws pertaining to harbor pilots. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-168)** proposed to add a definition of the term "actively piloting," specify that only three of the seven members of the Maine Pilotage Commission may be licensed pilots and add provisions limiting the personal liability of pilots for damages to not more than \$5,000, except for damages or loss arising from the intentional, willful or reckless misconduct of the pilot.

## Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 355, changes the name of the "Maine State Pilotage Commission" to the "Maine Pilotage Commission," increases the number of members on the commission and changes the description of the jurisdictional area that certain members represent, increases fees, penalties and fines for violating provisions of law governing the piloting of vessels, requires the commission to submit its annual report to the Commissioner of Transportation rather than to the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation, specifies that all complaints and investigative records of the commission are confidential during the pendency of an investigation and sets forth exceptions to that confidentiality, adds a definition of the term "actively piloting," specifies that only three of the seven members of the Maine Pilotage Commission may be licensed pilots and add provisions limiting the personal liability of pilots for damages to not more than \$5,000, except for damages or loss arising from the intentional, willful or reckless misconduct of the pilot.

Chapter 355 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 28, 1999.

## LD 1656 An Act to Allow Local Control of Traffic on State Aid Roads Without Loss of State Highway Funds

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committe	e Report	Amendments Adopted
DOUGLASS	ONTP	MAJ	
GOODWIN	OTP	MIN	

LD 1656 proposed to allow municipalities and counties to regulate state aid highways and bridges in the same manner in which they are presently able to regulate other public ways within their jurisdictions, while leaving those roads as state aid highways and while allowing the municipality to continue to receive its share of the highway funds to maintain those roads.

#### LD 1667 An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Laws

PUBLIC 470 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
O'GARA	OTP-AM	S-219
WHEELER G		S-230 MURRAY

LD 1667 proposed to make several changes to the motor vehicle laws. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-219) proposed to make the bill an emergency and to add several other provisions to the bill.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-230)** was being presented on behalf of the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading to remove a section of law already enacted in an identical section in Public Law 1999, chapter 127, Part A, section 43.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 470, does the following.

1. It repeals the Secretary of State's Motor Carrier Training Advisory Board since the board's duties duplicate the responsibilities of the Technical Review Panel for driver education programs under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 1354, subsection 6.

- 2. It clarifies the intent to exempt motorcycle and recreational vehicle manufacturers and distributors from the manufacturer licensing requirements.
- 3. It allows the Secretary of State to deny, suspend or revoke a business or occupational license on the basis of criminal convictions beyond the limitations, generally 3 years, established by Title 5, chapter 341.
- 4. It clarifies that an unlicensed person must be at least 14 years of age to operate a tractor used solely for farming purposes.
- 5. It amends the provision concerning the design for registration plates for firefighters in light of the new firefighter plate design.
- 6. It provides an enforcement provision to prohibit a person from using another person's disability plates or placard.
- 7. It corrects title fees for long-term registration plates for trailers.
- 8. It changes the title exemption and certificate of salvage exemption from vehicles older than 1984 to vehicles that are over 15 years old.
- 9. It addresses the time frame in which additional plates are issued at a 1/2 rate fee.
- 10. Currently all dealer licenses issued expire December 31st in the year they are issued. This bill allows for all dealer licenses to be issued on a staggered basis.
- 11. It repeals language that would be contrary to a staggered dealer plate issuance.
- 12. The enactment of Public Law 1997, chapter 737, section 3 and Public Law 1997, chapter 776, section 36 resulted in the adoption of 2 conflicting amendments to Title 29-A, section 1304, subsection 1, paragraph E. This bill corrects that conflict by incorporating the changes made by the 2 enactments into a single paragraph.
- 13. It prohibits a person with a motorcycle permit from carrying passengers.
- 14. It authorizes the Secretary of State to waive the requirement that a person under 18 years of age complete driver education before being issued a Maine driver's license if the person holds a valid driver's license from another iurisdiction.
- 15. It authorizes the Secretary of State to waive the road examination for an applicant for a motorcycle endorsement who has successfully passed an approved motorcycle rider course. It further provides that when the motorcycle road examination is waived the endorsement issued prohibits the carrying of passengers for 60 days.
- 16. It provides some administrative flexibility in the administration of 53-foot semitrailer permits. Current law requires a permit for each semitrailer with length in excess of 48 feet up to 53 feet. This bill allows the Secretary of State to issue the permit to the permittee's truck tractor, instead of the trailer, at the permittee's request.
- 17. It repeals the definition for "ignition interlock device."
- 18. It removes the Secretary of State's authority to require an ignition interlock device as a condition to license reinstatement for a person whose license is suspended following a conviction for operating after suspension.
- 19. It repeals the ignition interlock program for repeat OUI offenders.
- 20. It clarifies that a person may be convicted for operating after suspension when the person's license is suspended by a court for failing to pay a fine.

- 21. It clarifies that motor vehicles that are required by law to be registered in the State are subject to the same minimum insurance requirements as cars that are registered in the State.
- 22. It prohibit the sale or distribution of digital image information, graphic designs and security components contained in a driver's license.
- 23. It changes recycler licenses from calendar-year licenses to 12-month licenses.
- 24. It allows semitrailers registered in another jurisdiction to be titled in this State.
- 25. It allows the Secretary of State to issue a temporary 90-day facsimile plate to persons who have reserved their plate numbers to allow for the reserved plate to be manufactured.

Chapter 470 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

### LD 1680 An Act to Require the Equitable Taxation of Motor Vehicles

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACK	ONTP	
FERGUSON		

LD 1680 proposed to allow a person to transfer the title of a vehicle to any other person whose name appears on the registration certificate without that transaction being considered a new registration.

## LD 1690 An Act Regulating the Transportation of People in Pickup Trucks

**PUBLIC 311** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
BRUNO	OTP-AM	H-239
		H-289 WHEELER G

LD 1690 proposed to regulate the transportation of people and dogs in pickup trucks to ensure the safety of the passengers and animals by restricting a person under 19 years of age, with some exemptions, to riding in the passenger compartment of a pickup truck. The bill also proposed certain conditions and restrictions on the transportation of dogs in pickup trucks.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-239) proposed to remove from the bill all provisions pertaining to dogs and to change the title of the bill to reflect that change. The amendment also proposed to strike two exceptions proposed in the bill and to clarify that the exception for workers and trainees includes agricultural workers and trainees. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-289)** proposed to add an exception to the bill's prohibition on persons under 19 years of age riding in the back of a pickup truck for licensed hunters who are being transported to or from a hunting location, provided they are in compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to the possession and transportation of firearms in a motor vehicle.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 311 requires a person under 19 years of age to ride in the passenger compartment of a pickup truck. An exception is provided for workers and trainees, including agricultural workers and trainees engaged in work

related duties, participants in parades, people secured with a seat belt in manufacturer-installed seat located outside the passenger compartment and licensed hunters who are being transported to or from a hunting location who are in compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to the possession and transportation of firearms in a motor vehicle.

### LD 1739 An Act Relating to New and Used Car Document Fees

PUBLIC 211

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCGLOCKLIN	OTP-AM	H-240
PENDLETON		

LD 1739 proposed to prohibit a motor vehicle dealer from charging more than \$25 for document preparation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-240)** proposed to replace the bill and to require new and used car dealers to post their document preparation fees on each vehicle offered for sale. The amendment proposed that a dealer who violates this provision commits an unfair trade practice.

The amendment also proposed technical corrections to the bill and to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 211 requires new and used car dealers to post their document preparation fees on each vehicle offered for sale and makes a violation of that requirement an unfair trade practice.

#### LD 1746 An Act to Amend the Definition of Bicycle to Promote Road Safety

ONTP

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCKEE	ONTP	

LD 1746 proposed to amend the definition of bicycle under the motor vehicle laws to clarify which vehicles are subject to the rules of the road.

## LD 1754 An Act to Establish a Speed Limit at Toll Plaza Approaches on the Maine Turnpike

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE	ONTP	

LD 1754 proposed to establish a speed limit of five miles per hour in toll plazas on the Maine Turnpike.

## An Act to Ensure the Continued Operation of an Information Center in Fryeburg

INDEF PP

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedCOWGEROTP-AMMAJFERGUSONONTPMIN

LD 1813 proposed to require the Commissioner of Transportation to continue operating the Information Center in Fryeburg, currently operated by the Maine Tourism Commission pursuant to a lease agreement, as an information center in the event that lease is terminated by either party. The department holds title to the property and the Maine Tourism Commission operates the center pursuant to a 1960 lease agreement.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-434) proposed to replace the bill and make the bill an emergency. The amendment proposed to require the Department of Transportation and the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Tourism and Community Development to operate a visitor information center in Fryeburg in the same manner as they operate other state visitor centers, with the Department of Transportation providing the land, infrastructure, building and structural maintenance and the Office of Tourism and Community Development providing the funding for operating expenses. The amendment proposed to allow an existing welcome center or another appropriate facility in Fryeburg to remain open under such arrangements without interruption to the visitor information services historically provided in that town by the Maine Tourism Association, Inc. This amendment proposed that this requirement only be in place until the Legislature approves a comprehensive plan for capital, maintenance and staff support for tourism centers statewide. The amendment proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

LD 1853 An Act to Expand the Membership of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
GOODWIN ONTP

LD 1853 proposed to add three members to Northern New England Passenger Rail, one from each of the county commissioner districts in Washington County.

## LD 2002 An Act to Repeal the Mandatory Seat Belt Law if Approved at Referendum

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)Committee ReportAmendments AdoptedMENDROSONTPMAJBENOITOTP-AMMIN

LD 2002 proposed a referendum question to repeal the law that requires a person 18 years of age or older to wear a seat belt while a passenger in or operator of a motor vehicle.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-377) proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

Sponsor(s)
O'NEAL
OTP-AM
Committee Report
OTP-AM
H-380
H-506 JABAR
S-257 O'GARA

LD 2064 proposed to increase the maximum gross weight of farm trucks to 69,000 pounds. It also proposed that the Commissioner of Transportation and Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources annually establish a period coinciding with the potato harvest season during which the axle weight restrictions on farm trucks are waived.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-380) proposed to correct a fee amount proposed in the bill and clarify that the seasonal axle weight limit exemption applies only to farm vehicles transporting potatoes during the potato harvesting season from the field to a place of storage or processing and only when the vehicle complies with the gross weight limits of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, chapter 21 and has at least 8,000 pounds on the steering axle. The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

**House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-506)** proposed that the exemption from certain axle weight limits for farm vehicles transporting potatoes during the potato harvesting season does not apply on the Interstate Highway System, including the Maine Turnpike.

Senate Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (S-257) proposed to replace the fiscal note on the committee amendment with a correct fiscal note.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 472 increases the maximum gross weight of farm trucks to 69,000 pounds and provides seasonal axle weight limit exemption for farm vehicles transporting potatoes during the potato harvesting season from the field to a place of storage or processing. The exemption applies only when the vehicle complies with the gross weight limits of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, chapter 21 and has at least 8,000 pounds on the steering axle. The exemption does not apply on the Interstate Highway System, including the Maine Turnpike.

# LD 2081 An Act to Make Commercial Vehicle Weight Limits Consistent with Federal Law

**PUBLIC 164** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
LAWRENCE	OTP	
WHEELER G		

LD 2081 proposed that commercial vehicle weight limits applied generally on the highways of the State also be applied on the Maine Turnpike and on certain portions of Interstate 95. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

## Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 164 applies commercial vehicle weight limits applied generally on the highways of the State to the Maine Turnpike and to certain portions of Interstate 95.

#### An Act to Change the Fine for Speeding in a School Zone

**PUBLIC 308** 

Sponsor(s)	Committe	ee Report	Amendments Adopted
ROWE	OTP	MAJ	
	ONTP	MIN	

LD 2094 proposed to create a fine for speeding in a school zone that is double the fine for speeding outside of a school zone.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 308 creates a fine for speeding in a school zone that is double the fine for speeding outside of a school zone.

#### LD 2132

## An Act to Consolidate Traffic Movement Permits within the Department of Transportation

PUBLIC 468 EMERGENCY

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
O'GARA	OTP-AM	S-167
BOUFFARD		S-192 O'GARA

LD 2132 proposed to transfer the responsibility for issuing traffic movement permits under the Site Location of Development laws from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Transportation, beginning June 30, 1999. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-167)** proposed a series of technical corrections to the bill to facilitate the transfer of traffic movement permitting from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Transportation and to add allocations from the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation to fund a new position in the department to manage the permit process.

**Senate Amendment "A"** (S-192) proposed to extend to semi-trailers the requirement that a trailer that is wider than the vehicle towing it be equipped with reflective material or lamps.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 468, transfers the responsibility for issuing traffic movement permits under the Site Location of Development laws from the Department of Environmental Protection to the Department of Transportation, beginning June 30, 1999, and allocates funds from the Highway Fund to the Department of Transportation to fund a new position in the department to manage the permit process.

Chapter 468 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 10, 1999.

## An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999

P & S 12 EMERGENCY

 Sponsor(s)
 Committee Report
 Amendments Adopted

 O'GARA
 OTP-AM
 S-116

 JABAR
 S-116

LD 2135 proposed to make supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund, make supplemental allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund and authorize the State Controller to transfer funds from the fiscal year 1998-99 year-end balance to the Highway and Bridge Improvement program in the Department of Transportation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-116)** proposed that the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services implement modified accrual for the fuel tax line of the Highway Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. The amendment also proposed an additional Other Special Revenue allocation to the Highway Maintenance program within the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 1998-99 and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Private and Special Law 1999, chapter 12, makes supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund, makes supplemental allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund, authorizes the State Controller to transfer funds from the fiscal year 1998-99 year-end balance to the Highway and Bridge Improvement program in the Department of Transportation and directs the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to implement modified accrual for the fuel tax line of the Highway Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. This law also provides an additional Other Special Revenue allocation to the Highway Maintenance program within the Department of Transportation for fiscal year 1998-99.

Chapter 12 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 10, 1999.

# LD 2139 An Act to Allow Authorized Emergency Vehicles to Display a Blue Light on the Rear of the Vehicle

ONTP

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
BULL ONTP

LD 2139 proposed to allow a blue light to be mounted on authorized emergency vehicles.

#### LD 2146 An Act to Exempt from Registration Agricultural Motor Vehicles

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
DESMOND	ONTP	
MICHAUD		

LD 2146 proposed to exempt from registration motor vehicles used solely for farming purposes that are operated to or from the premises where the motor vehicle is kept, a farm lot and between farm lots or a filling station or garage for fuel or repairs. The bill proposed that the motor vehicle may not be operated in excess of 35 miles per hour, on a road with a

posted speed limit of over 45 miles per hour or further than five miles from the main entrance of the farm and that the motor vehicle does not need to meet the inspection standards for registered vehicles. The bill proposed that the motor vehicle may be operated on a public way only during daytime hours from May 1st to October 31st.

### LD 2149 An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Title Laws

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WHEELER G		
O'GARA		

LD 2149 proposes to amend the motor vehicle title laws as follows.

- 1. It distinguishes between a salvage vehicle that may be rebuilt for highway use and a total loss vehicle that is unrebuildable and is suitable for parts only. A total loss vehicle may not be registered or retitled.
- 2. It combines the various certificates issued by the department under one definition unless the context indicates otherwise.
- 3. It specifies that, once a vehicle is declared a "salvage vehicle," the prior certificate of title must be surrendered prior to issuance of salvage title.
- 4. It specifies that, once a vehicle is declared a "total loss," the prior certificate of title or certificate of salvage must be surrendered prior to issuance of a certificate of total loss.
- 5. It clarifies what information must be or may be on a certificate.
- 6. It allows the Secretary of State to withdraw an application for a certificate for just cause.
- 7. It clarifies the procedure for obtaining a duplicate title.
- 8. It clarifies that a dealer needs a release of lien on any certificate.
- 9. It specifies that a total loss that is sold or displayed at auction must be accompanied by a certificate of total loss.
- 10. It specifies that a total loss vehicle can not be registered or retitled in the State.
- 11. It clarifies what the insurer and the owner must do with a salvage vehicle.
- 12. It clarifies what a recycler must do to obtain a certificate of salvage or total loss.
- 13. It specifies the legends that must appear on certificates issued for salvage vehicles, total losses and rebuilt salvage vehicles.

This bill was submitted on behalf of the Secretary of State.

## An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Construction of Salt and Sand Storage Facilities

**PUBLIC 387** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
O'GARA	OTP-AM	S-308
SAVAGE C		

LD 2156 proposed to amend the laws on the construction of salt and sand storage facilities. It proposed to repeal the current state mandate that municipalities or counties with Priority 4 or Priority 5 sand-salt storage sites build a building. It proposed to provide for a reassessment of environmental priority levels of all sites, yet retain the current order of expected financial reimbursement for construction of a building. It proposed to require that state and private Priority 4 and 5 storage sites follow best management practices to prevent water pollution. This bill also proposed to require the Department of Environmental Protection to report on the remaining threats to groundwater and surface water due to storage of road salt and how to address those threats. This bill was submitted on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

**Committee Amendment "A" (S-308)** proposed that 20% of all funds approved by the Legislature after January 1, 1999 to reimburse municipalities for the construction of sand and salt storage facilities must be used to reimburse towns with Priority 4 projects that are completed before November 1, 1999. That requirement would remain in effect until all such Priority 4 projects are fully reimbursed. The remaining 80% of any funds approved by the Legislature would be used to reimburse towns having Priority 1, 2 or 3 projects, in that order of priority.

The amendment also proposed several technical changes to the bill and proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

#### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 387 requires that 20% of all funds approved by the Legislature after January 1, 1999 to reimburse municipalities for the construction of sand and salt storage facilities must be used to reimburse towns with Priority 4 projects that are completed before November 1, 1999. That requirement remains in effect until all such Priority 4 projects are fully reimbursed. The remaining 80% of any funds approved by the Legislature would be used to reimburse towns having Priority 1, 2 or 3 projects, in that order of priority.

# LD 2171 Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to Build a Truck CARRIED OVER Escape Ramp on Route 16 in Bingham

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MCGLOCKLIN		
MILLS		

LD 2171 proposes to require the Department of Transportation to construct on Route 16 in Bingham a truck escape ramp to slow and stop away from the main stream of traffic those vehicles that are out of control due to a loss of braking ability.

### An Act Requiring That the Costs of Transporting Highway Construction and Maintenance Materials to Isle au Haut by Barge or Ferry be Paid from the Highway Fund

**PUBLIC 524** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report		Amendments Adopted
VOLENIK	OTP-AM	MAJ	H-432
PINGREE	ONTP	MIN	

LD 2172 proposed that continuing costs of transporting highway construction and maintenance materials to Isle au Haut be paid from the Highway Fund.

**Committee Amendment "A" (H-432)** proposed to replace the bill and provide the Department of Transportation with \$50,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$10,000 in each fiscal year thereafter from the Highway Fund to pay the costs of shipping road construction and maintenance materials to Isle au Haut.

The amendment also proposed to add a fiscal note to the bill.

### Enacted law summary

Public Law 1999, chapter 524, provides the Department of Transportation with \$50,000 in fiscal year 1999-00 and \$10,000 in each fiscal year thereafter from the Highway Fund to pay the costs of shipping road construction and maintenance materials to Isle au Haut.

#### LD 2205

An Act to Require Legislative Approval of the Automation of 2 Drawbridges between Kittery and Portsmouth, New Hampshire **ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
WHEELER G	ONTP	
LAWRENCE		

LD 2205 proposed to require prior approval of the Legislature to automate and to expend funds to automate the Memorial Bridge and the Sara Mildred Long Bridge, which are the two drawbridges that connect the Town of Kittery and the City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

#### LD 2208 An Act to Remove Restrictions on Changeable Signs

**CARRIED OVER** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MACDOUGALL		
MACKINNON		

LD 2208 proposes to remove the restrictions on changeable signs.

**HP 1143** 

Joint Order Relative to Establishing the Joint Select Committee to Study Building a Truck Bypass in the Town of Sanford **ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE	ONTP	
MACKINNON		
BOUFFARD		
BOWLES		

HP 1143 proposed that the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, representatives of the Department of Transportation and one person from the Governor's Office hold an unspecified number of meetings over the biennium to assess the volume of truck traffic along Route 202 in Sanford, assess the cost of constructing a bypass for trucks in Sanford and prepare preliminary plans for the location of that bypass and the sources of funding.

## HP 1568 Joint Order Relative to the Commission to Study the Fairness of the Maine Turnpike

**ONTP** 

Sponsor(s)	Committee Report	Amendments Adopted
MENDROS	ONTP	
DOUGLASS		
BRENNAN		
CAMPBELL		

HP 1568 proposed to create a commission to study the fairness of the Maine Turnpike system.